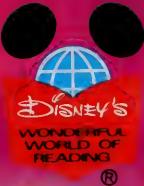
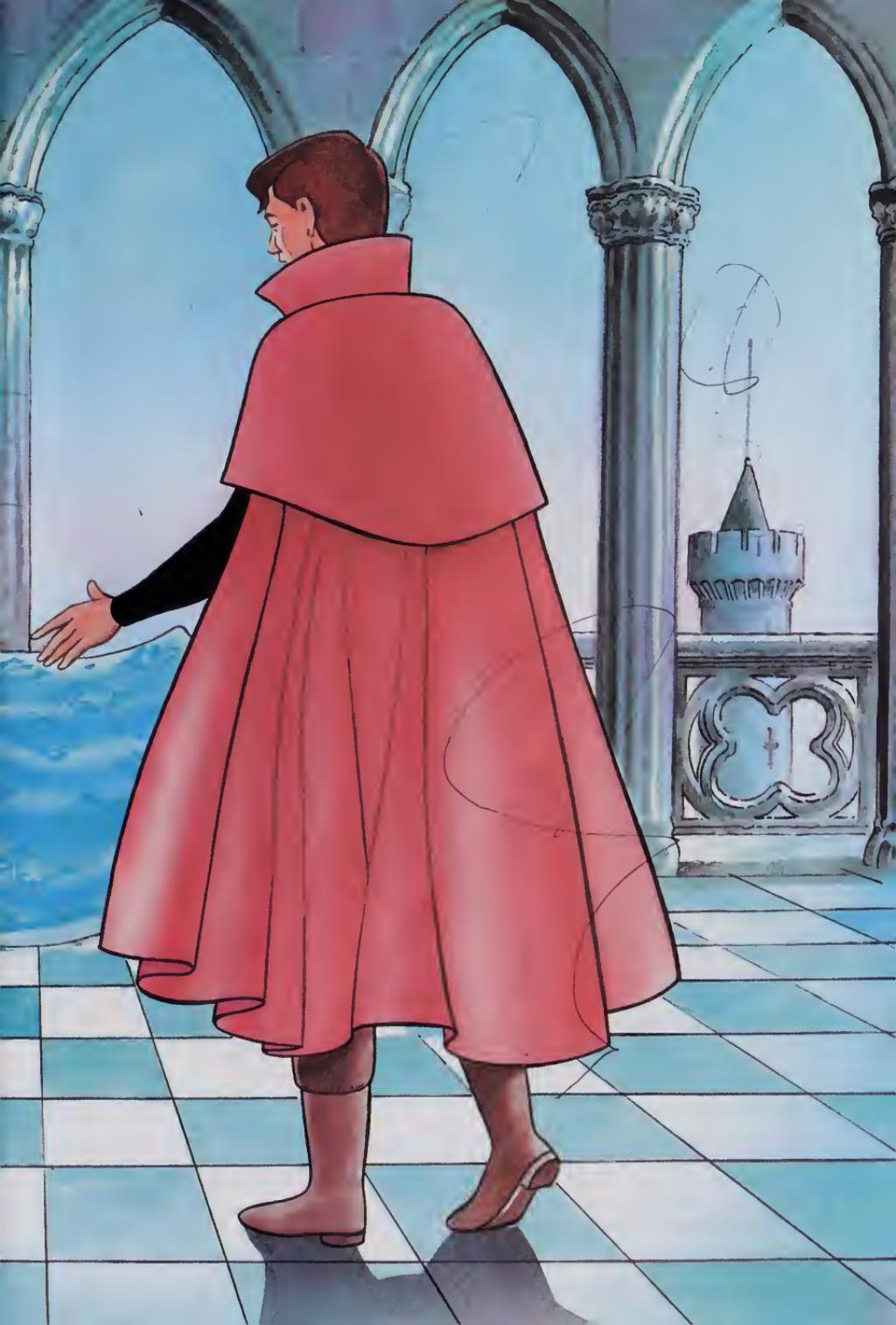


Walt Disney's

Sleeping Beauty









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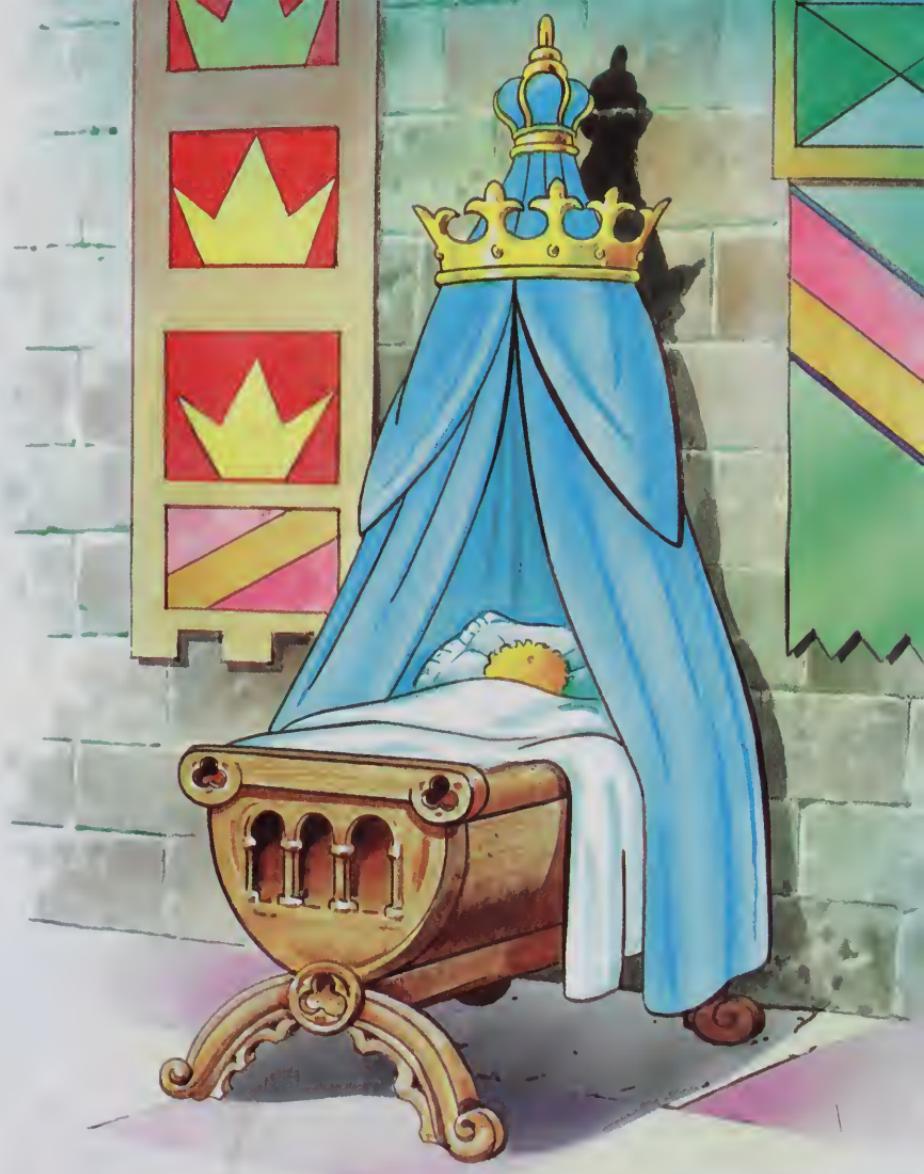
Sleeping Beauty



GROLIER
BOOK CLUB EDITION

Long ago there lived a good king named Stefan.
For many years King Stefan and his queen wished
and wished for a child.





At last their wish came true. The king and queen named their daughter Aurora.

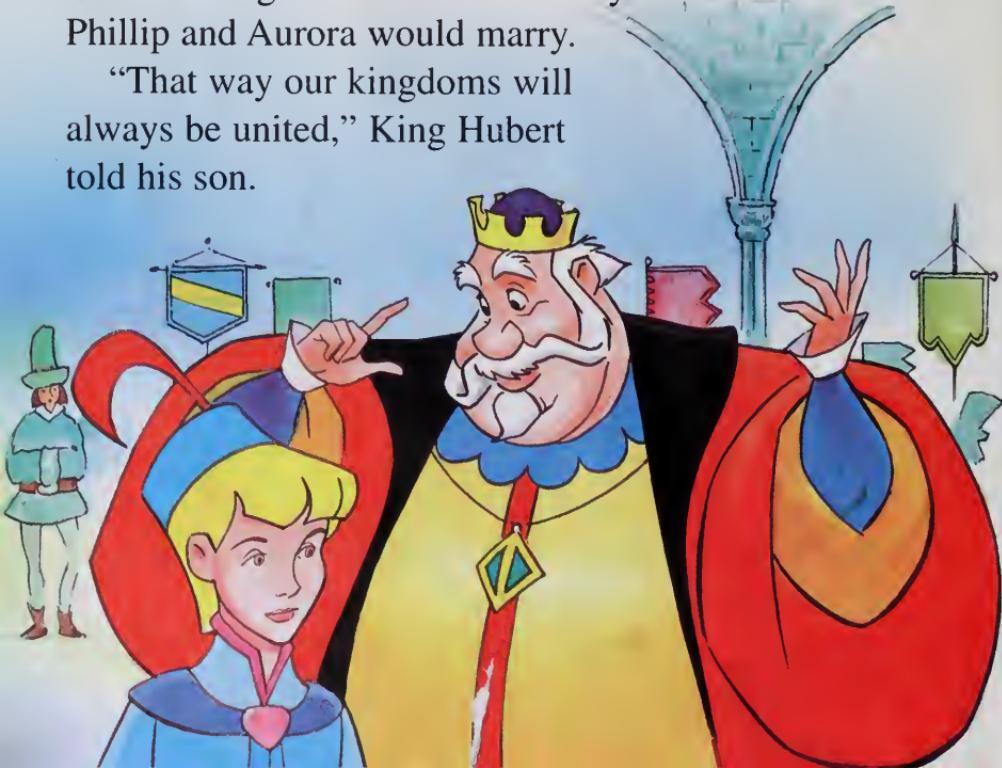
A great feast was planned to celebrate the birth of the new princess.

Everyone in the kingdom came
to the feast.



King Hubert arrived with his son, Prince Phillip.
The two kings decided that one day
Phillip and Aurora would marry.

"That way our kingdoms will
always be united," King Hubert
told his son.



Three good fairies came to the feast. Each had a special gift for the princess.

Flora waved her wand.
“I give you the gift
of beauty.”



“My gift
shall be the
gift of song,”
said Fauna.

“And my gift . . .”
began Merryweather.
Suddenly a blast
of wind blew
open the
castle doors.







A bright flame filled the room. Then the wicked fairy, Maleficent, appeared from the flame.

"You did not invite me to the feast, King Stefan. But I, too, have a gift for the princess."

Maleficent pointed at the cradle. "Before the sun sets on her sixteenth birthday, the princess will prick her finger on the spindle of a spinning wheel. And she will die!"

"Seize that creature!" shouted the king. But Maleficent disappeared in a cloud of smoke.

Luckily, Merryweather still had her magical gift to give. The good fairy could not undo the evil spell.

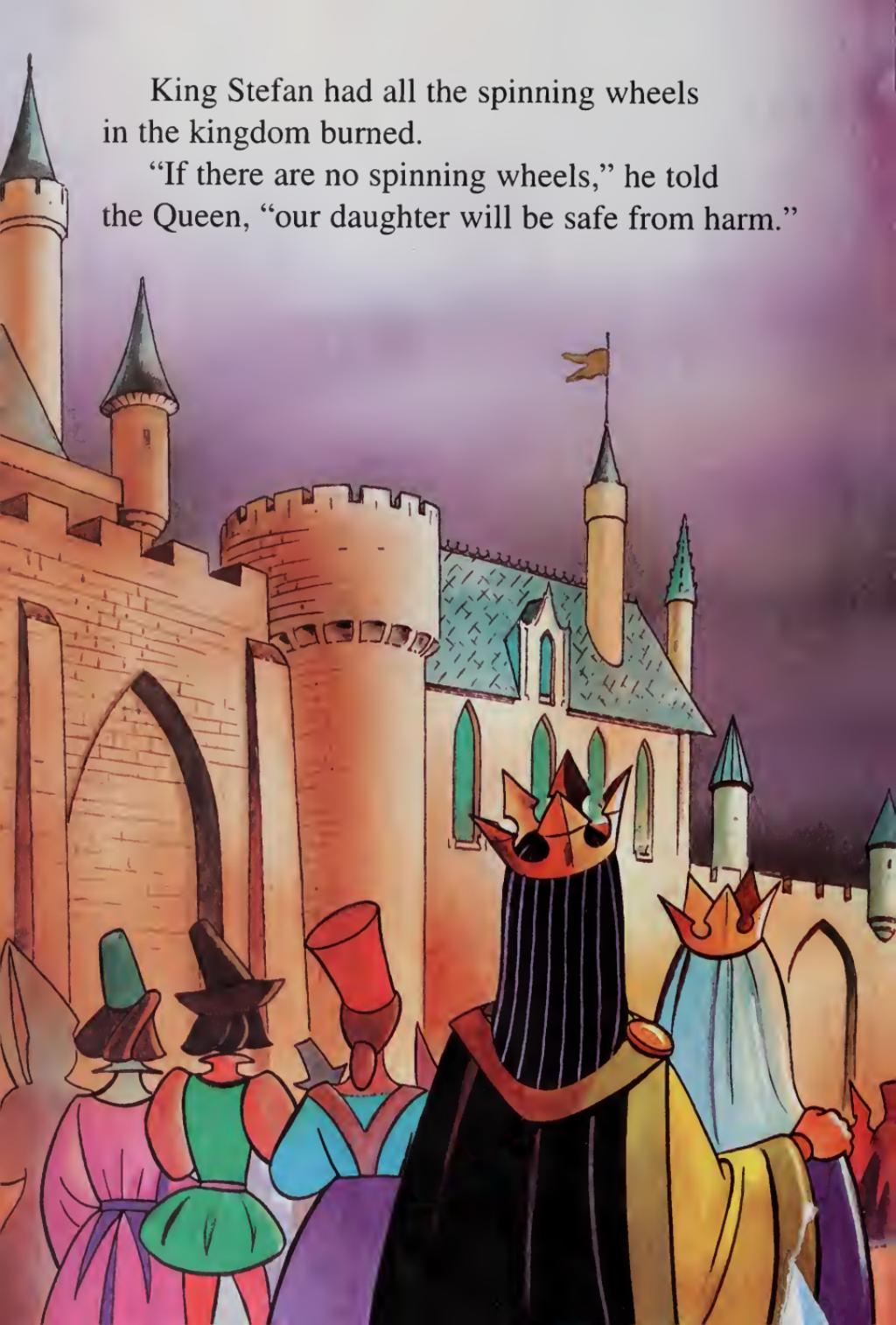


But she could
soften it.

Merryweather waved her wand. "Sweet Aurora," she said,

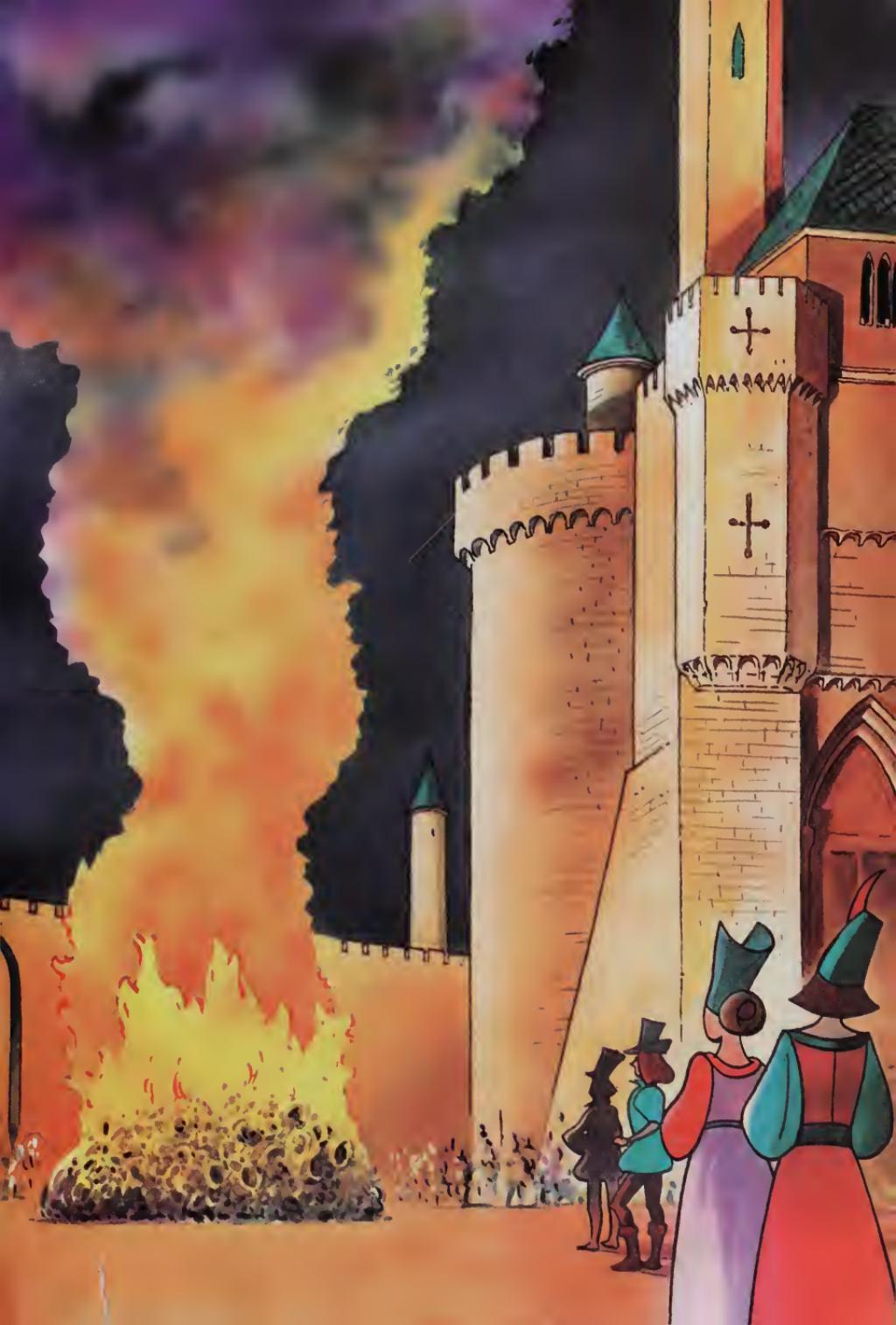
*Not in death, but just in sleep,
The fateful prophecy you'll keep.
From this slumber you shall wake,
When true love's kiss the spell shall break.*





King Stefan had all the spinning wheels
in the kingdom burned.

"If there are no spinning wheels," he told
the Queen, "our daughter will be safe from harm."





The three fairies knew Aurora still wasn't safe.

Flora had an idea. The fairies would secretly raise the princess themselves in a cottage in the woods.

"And no magic," Flora told the others. "Then Maleficent will never be able to find us."





The fairies explained their plan to the king and queen. Reluctantly, the king and queen agreed.

That night three peasant women left the castle with a small bundle.



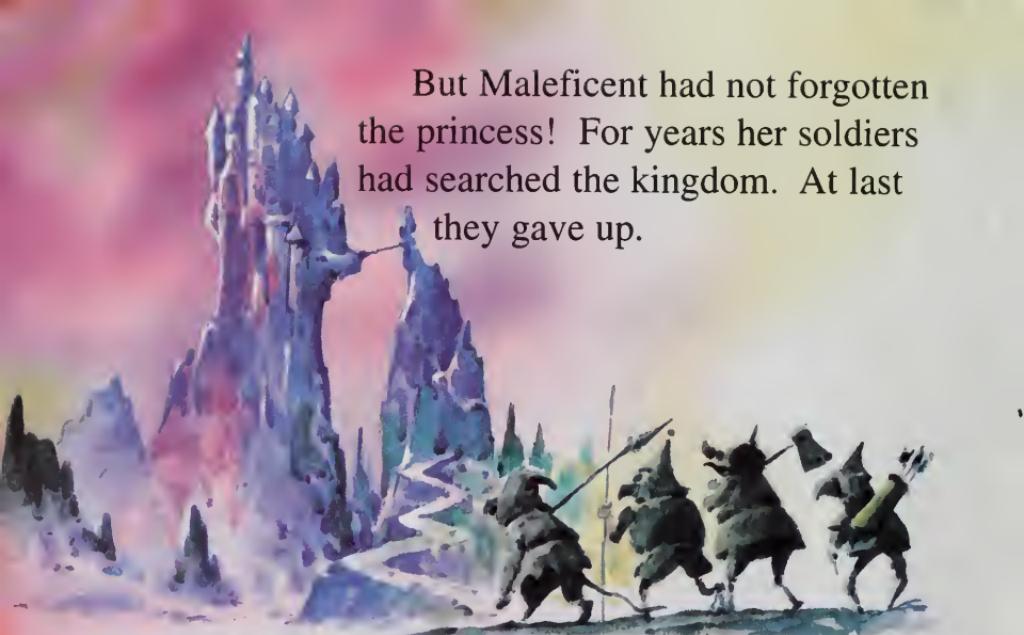
The three women arrived at a cottage nestled deep in the forest.

“We must never call her Princess Aurora,” Flora told the others. “Her new name is Briar Rose.”

Sixteen happy years passed. Briar Rose grew into a lovely young woman. She did not know she was a princess.



And she had never heard of the evil fairy.



But Maleficent had not forgotten the princess! For years her soldiers had searched the kingdom. At last they gave up.

"We checked every cradle," they told Maleficent. "Fools!" she shouted. "You've been looking for a baby all these years!"





Maleficent turned to her pet raven. "You are my last hope. Search for a maid of sixteen with hair of gold. Go, and do not fail me."

The raven flew off into the night.

The next day was Briar Rose's sixteenth birthday. The fairies wanted to surprise her with a party, so they sent her out of the cottage.

"We need berries," Fauna said.

"Lots of berries," added Flora.

"Don't hurry back," called Merryweather.





The fairies set to work.
Flora made a dress.
Fauna baked a cake.



"This dress
looks awful,"
declared
Merryweather.



The fairies
needed a
little magic.



Meanwhile,
Briar Rose was
singing to the
forest animals.
She told them
all about a
prince she
had met in
her dreams.



Nearby, Prince Phillip was riding his horse.
When he heard Briar Rose singing, the prince
couldn't resist joining in.
For a little while they sang and danced together.





"What is your name?" Prince Phillip asked.

"Why, it's . . ." Just then, Briar Rose remembered that she was not allowed to talk to strangers. "I have to go," she said quickly.

"When will I see you again?" asked the prince. He had already fallen in love with Briar Rose.

"Tonight. I live in the cottage in the glen," she called as she hurried away.

Back at the cottage, Fauna had fetched their magic wands. She waved her wand. Now the cake was perfect!

Flora changed the dress she had made into a beautiful pink gown.



"It should
be blue," said
Merryweather.
She made the
dress blue.

"Pink!" shouted Flora.

The fairies kept changing the dress from pink to blue and blue to pink. Pink and blue magic dust flew everywhere!

Maleficent's raven
saw the magic dust
flying out of the
chimney. He had found
the princess! Back he
went to tell Maleficent.





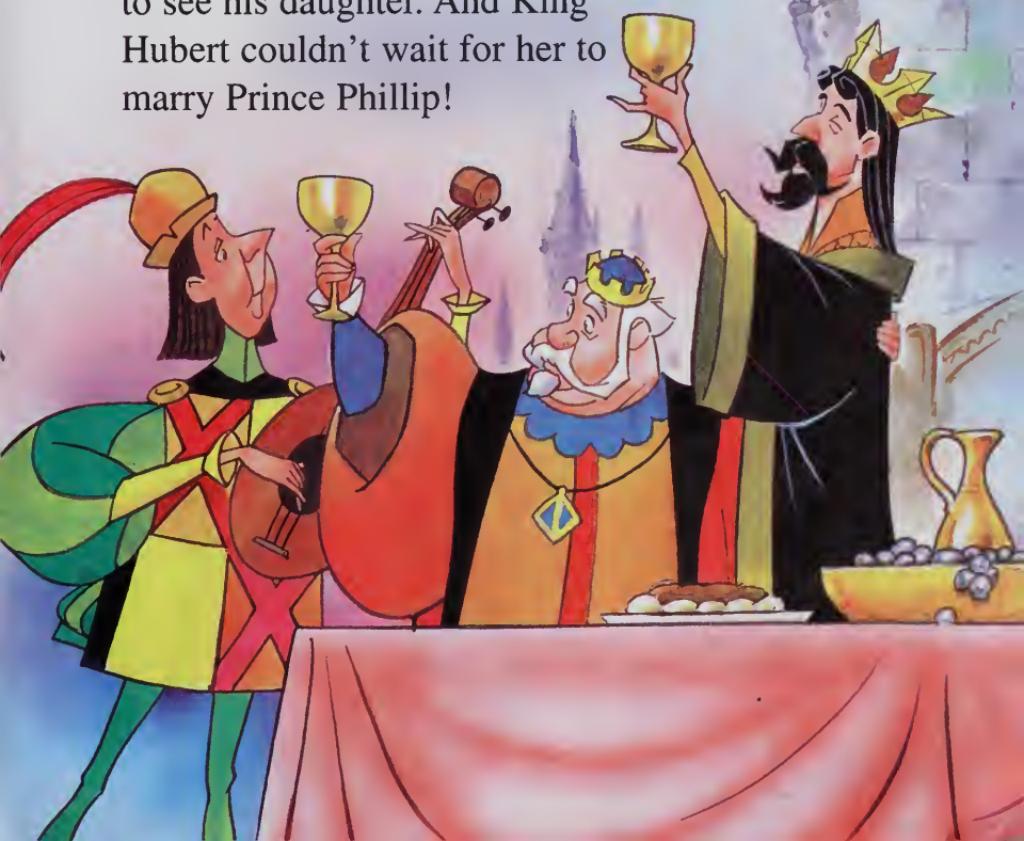
Just then, Briar Rose returned to the cottage.
“Surprise!” the fairies shouted.
“Oh, this is the happiest day of my life!” cried
Briar Rose. “I met the most wonderful young man.
He’s coming here tonight.”

The fairies could see she was in love.
“But that’s terrible,” said Fauna.
“Why?” asked Briar Rose.
The fairies told Briar Rose that she was really
Princess Aurora. She had to return to the castle that
very night. And she had to marry a prince.



Aurora was very unhappy.
She would never see the
young man she had met in the
forest again.

Yet everyone in the castle was happy. King Stefan couldn't wait to see his daughter. And King Hubert couldn't wait for her to marry Prince Phillip!



When they arrived at the castle, the fairies left to fetch the king and queen.



No sooner had they gone than a magic ball of light appeared.



Aurora followed
it up the stairs
to a small room.



Maleficent was waiting for her—
with a spinning wheel!

Aurora had never seen
a spinning wheel before.
She reached for the spindle.

“Touch it,” Maleficent
hissed.

Aurora touched the
spindle and fell into a
deep sleep.





The three fairies had been searching for Aurora.
They found her lying on the floor, fast asleep.





The fairies placed the princess on a bed.

“She will sleep until she is kissed by her true love,” sighed Flora. “Perhaps he is the young man she met in the forest.”

“He was coming to the cottage tonight,” remembered Merryweather.

“Let’s meet him there,” said Flora. “But first, let’s put everyone in the castle to sleep. That way no one will know what has happened.”



The fairies cast a spell
over the entire castle.

Soon everyone was
fast asleep.





Prince Phillip had already arrived at the cottage. He had decided to marry the girl he had met in the forest instead of Princess Aurora.



Maleficent's soldiers were waiting for him. They tied up the prince and brought him to the Forbidden Mountains.



Maleficent told Prince Phillip that the girl in the forest was really Princess Aurora. She was sure he would never escape to wake his sleeping beauty.



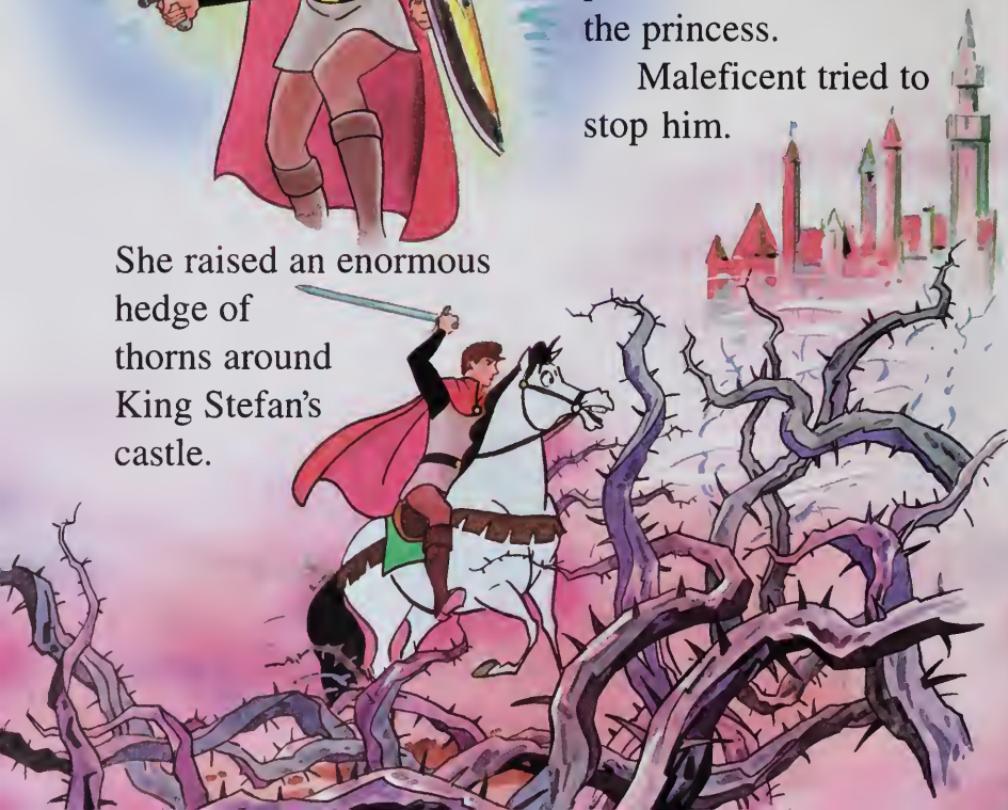
But the three fairies realized what had happened. They sneaked into the dungeon and freed the prince.

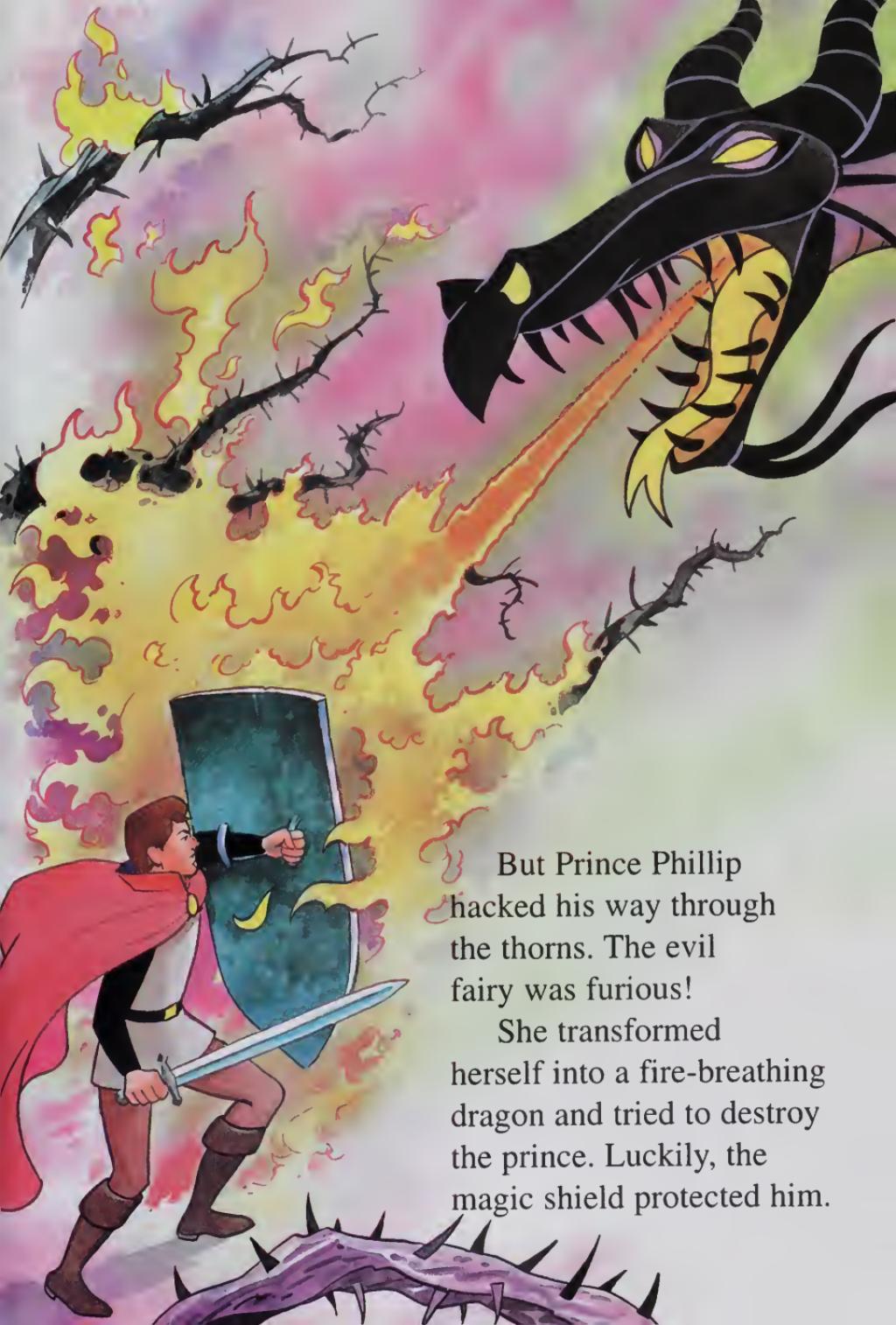


“Take this magic sword and shield to protect you,” said Merryweather. The prince set off to rescue the princess.

Maleficent tried to stop him.

She raised an enormous hedge of thorns around King Stefan’s castle.





But Prince Phillip hacked his way through the thorns. The evil fairy was furious!

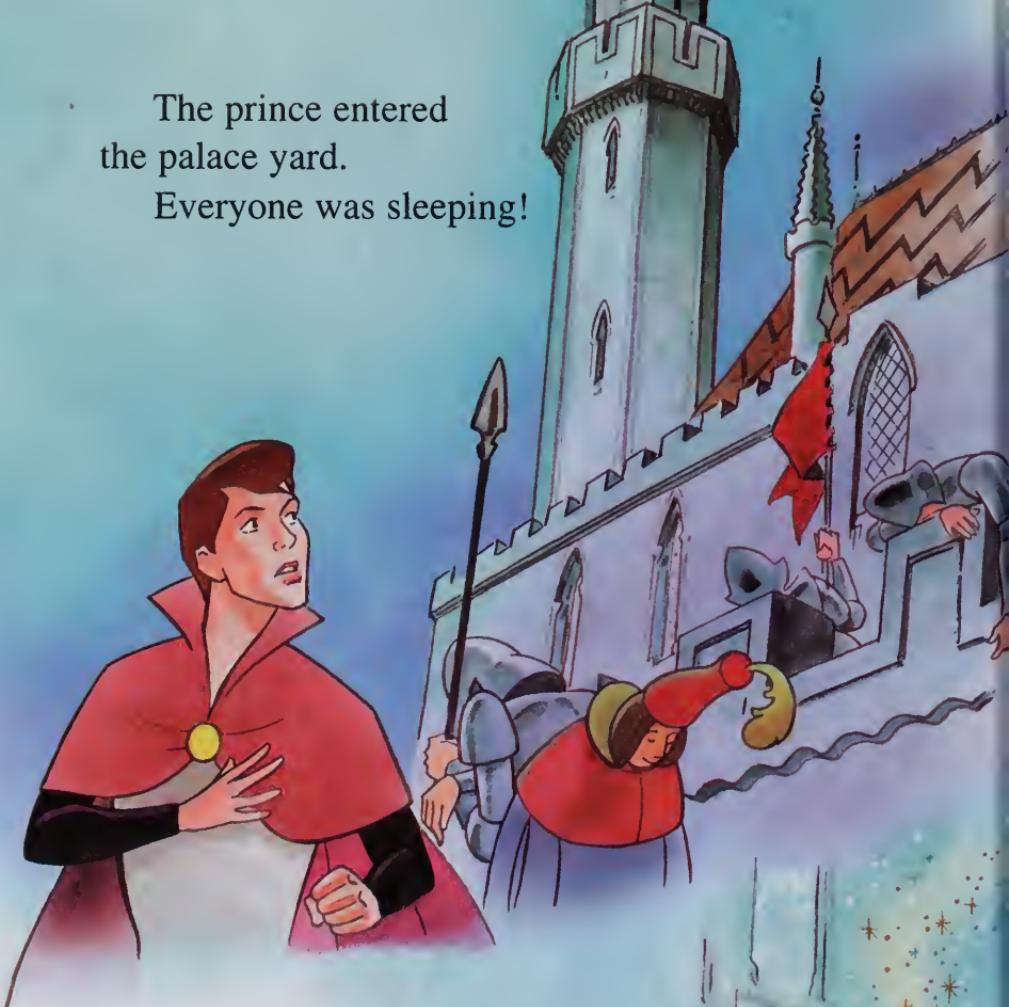
She transformed herself into a fire-breathing dragon and tried to destroy the prince. Luckily, the magic shield protected him.





Finally the prince saw his chance. He threw the sword at the dragon's heart. That was the end of the dragon—and the evil fairy, too!

The prince entered
the palace yard.
Everyone was sleeping!



He raced up the stairs
to the tower.



He found Princess Aurora asleep on the bed.
As soon as he kissed her, Aurora's eyes opened.
The spell had been broken!



Everyone else
in the castle woke
up, too.



The king and queen were very happy to see their daughter. And King Hubert was very happy to learn that the prince and princess were in love!



The three fairies watched as the young couple danced across the floor.

"I just love happy endings," sighed Fauna.
Flora and Merryweather couldn't have
agreed more!



